

Date: Mon, 31 May 93 18:38:31 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #663
To: Info-Hams

Today's Topics:

Alinco DJ-580T keypad
Amiga LOGGER WPX bugs.
Bad News For Blind U.S. Hams :-(
HTX-202 and pl usage
IC 271/471 vs IC 275/475 Performance Question
Kit Review
Marine Band Channel 16 Freq?
Nickel-hydride batteries (UPDATE)
RACES Bulletin #276
Varney's antenna
Warning! FT5200 DANGER!

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available (by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Tue, 1 Jun 1993 01:38:54 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!torn!csd.unb.ca!
UNBVM1.CSD.UNB.CA@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Alinco DJ-580T keypad
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hi,

A few months ago, someone with an Alinco DJ580 said that the numbers on his keypad were starting to wear out.

Someone suggested to use clear nail polish over the keys - has anyone

tried this yet?? Any comments about it??

Thanks,

Paul Cormier
VE1POL

Y6HJ@unb.ca <or> Y6HJ@jupiter.sun.cs.unb.ca
FidoNet: (1:255/20) Data: (506)735-3831 [v32b]

Date: 31 May 1993 03:17:33 GMT
From: access.usask.ca!herald.usask.ca!hardie@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Amiga LOGGER WPX bugs.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

If you have used my WPX program for the Amiga this past weekend, there are 3 bugs (so far) in the program. I have fixed 2 of them and am trying to fix the third. A version of WPX with the 2 fixes is on ftp.usask.ca in pub/hamradio/wpx and the file wpx-fix.doc describes the problems.
73 de Pete hardie@herald.usask.ca VE5VA

Date: 31 May 1993 10:22:41 -0500
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!cs.utexas.edu!
geraldo.cc.utexas.edu!thumper.cc.utexas.edu!not-for-mail@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Bad News For Blind U.S. Hams :-(
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

If anyone caught this week's Newsline broadcast, then you know what I'm talking about. If not, well, you soon will. :-)

The FCC has told a blind Advanced Class ham that he cannot administer VE examinations because he's not able to "observe" the candidates, as per the rules in Part 97 (this because of his blindness). Simple as that. His club or whatever wouldn't let him help with their tests; he filed a discrimination complaint with the FCC, who took some time in reaching a decision. Their decision was to say that the club was right in not letting this fella administer exams.

My personal view on this, as a blind Extra Class ham is that the FCC is wrong. Blind people can (and have) given exams (both as teachers and professors, to sighted students and I'm certain as VE') for quite some time now. They have done so successfully, since these teachers are still employed ... The fact that these blind people are blind has not hindered their ability to "observe" their surroundings. This is probably one of the silliest (and stupidest and lots of other things) thing I've heard from the FCC in some time.

A bunch of us were talking on a local repeater about this last night, and I've this (in collaboration with my local others :-)). Someone said that their only problem would be if all three VE's were blind. (I'm sure I could set up this situation.) Considering the unique situation that VE's are in, I can think of only a few ways in which this could reasonably happen. First, let me say that most times, blind people use live readers to have such things as tests read to them (for grading and for taking as in college), as well as other print material. Since prospective candidates want their answers graded now, this would be impractical unless someone brought their reader, in which case one can argue that "someone" can watch the proceedings ... at any rate:

- A) The room is full of blind people taking tests and all the tests are being given in an accessible format.
- B) One of the blind VE's has some vision (i.e. legally blind) who can help more easily grade things.
- C) For those unable to read Braille, the tests could be given orally, as they are with blind people taking them as it stands now.

In all of these situations, the VE's are still in control. If there is one or two blind VE's, they would still all be in control of the situation, imho. Anyway, I think everyone gets my point, that the blind can competently administer VE exams. (BTW: I think it's time I send off for my VE certification. It's something I've been putting off ...)

The NFB convention is coming up next month. I'm sure this will be discussed there. Any other comments on this, pro or con? (Yes, it's a can of worms that has nothing to do with codeless techs!!)

Oh, and one other thing: People wouldn't like me as a VE if I had my way, but not because I'm blind. I think that a sending test should still be required for tests that require code proficiency. (But, let's not talk about that. I'm sure that most of y'all disagree with me, and that's no news. Besides, since the FCC stopped that 18 years ago or so, at least, I guess that I can't have my way after all [as everyone breathes a sigh of relief].)

73,

--

Buddy Brannan, KB5ELV, Riff-Raff #4

The World's Youngest Old Fart :-)

Internet: davros@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu

"... Every inch of me that isn't a carnivore is 100% vegetarian."--Elf-Kin

Date: 31 May 1993 16:04:42 -0400
From: digex.com!digex.net!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: HTX-202 and pl usage
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

bote@access.digex.net (John Boteler) writes:
>mark_t._phillips.henr801c@xerox.com writes:
>>squench. When he releases the PTT, the HTX-202 receiver does not
>>immediately turn on. The lcd bar-graph indicates the radio is still
>>transmitting (tho it is not)
>
>The radio most certainly is transmitting during that silent
>period. That is why it says it is transmitting, by the way.

Well, this Boteler guy was half-right.

While two HTX-202 users were conversing on my repeater
while I was working on it this weekend, I quickly switched
it into PL mode. The users were both transmitting PL.

Apparently the radio continues to transmit PL during what I
described as the Chicken Burst period. I don't know why it
does this, but my inference that it was no longer transmitting
PL is probably wrong. I must conduct further tests with
an HTX-202 in hand to see for sure.

Also, I have since been told that these radios were designed
in-house by Tandy, not by ICOM as I assumed.

--

bote@access.digex.net (John Boteler)
WARNING: You are subject to pre-emption!

Date: 31 May 93 04:04:43 EDT
From: psinntp!arrl.org@uunet.uu.net
Subject: IC 271/471 vs IC 275/475 Performance Question
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, gary@ke4zv.uucp (Gary Coffman) writes:
>In article <C7r5px.8un@freenet.carleton.ca> ae517@Freenet.carleton.ca (Russ
Renaud) writes:
>>Relating to this, what DOES the Mutek front end provide to a 251
>>owner that a good preamp will not?? Certainly anyone who would
>>want to use this rig for satcoms or EME would put an outboard
>>preamp on this rig anyway.

The RSGB Buyers guide had a product review of the 251E with a Mutek
front end. (we don't carry this one anymore, I suspect the RSGB doesn't
either--its now a bit dated) Unfortunately, no mention was made of the

prior performance. Supposedly, the 12 dB Sinad SSB sensitivity is -134 dBm, with a 3 and 6 dB BW of .35 and 1.2 kHz, respectfully, with the reviewer noting a dreadful passband. (I'd guess the NF is around 2 dB) The input intercept was +1 dBm and the reviewer said the reciprocal mixing measured superbly well. Somehow I get the impression that this was a "tweaked unit, which yielded excellent numbers," even at the expense of overall quality.

>>Could Gary or someone elaborate on this?

>

>Ok, the one weakness of the 211/251 is a front end that has low intercept, >and a PIN TR switching system with high insertion loss. These two >combine to make a radio that performs poorly as a weak signal receiver >in a high RF environment. What the Mutek board does is replace the PIN >TR with a sealed Teledyne RF relay, and replace the mixer and post >amplifier with a Mini Circuit DBM and FET. The phase noise of the LO is >already quite low for the era, only the 275 is markedly better. The >result is a strong and sensitive receiver. The board for the 251 is >similar, but the phase noise of the 251 LO isn't quite as good so the >results aren't quite as impressive.

>

>The reasons you can't just fix the problem with a antenna mounted GASFET >preamplifier are that the insertion loss of the PIN TR is high (12 db), and the

I've measured a IC-251A and its similar to the IC-202/402. The noise figure is around 6 dB and the dynamic range is 75 dB. (-134.5 dBm MDS).

The Dec 1978 QST has a product review of the IC-211. The sensitivity was measured at .14 uV for 10 dB S+N/N. This was in the period in which the lab was just beginning to get decent test equipment.

>existing mixer can't stand strong signals. So if you put a really "hot" >preamplifier at the antenna to overcome both cable loss and PIN TR loss, not

For most people, a good tradeoff is 10 dB more gain than the (Receiver noise figure+cable loss). With 3 dB of cable loss, this is a gain of 19 dB for the stock 251A. With a Mutek board, this can be reduced to 15 dB. With an exceptionally quiet location, and a 0.5 dB preamp, I calculate a negligible improvement in NF (.07 dB) but 17.3 dB better dynamic range. Pretty significant, till you realize that you started with a receiver with a 15 dB better dynamic range to begin with!

If you use a better comparison, using 14 dB of gain with the Mutek, since the rule of thumb isn't quite accurate, the noise figure is 0.82 vs. 0.83 dB, and the dynamic range is 18.7 dB better. Note that for an extra .06 dB in noise figure, you get 1.4 dB more dynamic range.

This doesn't address the problem that most really low noise figure

preamps have way too much gain--20 or 23 dB isn't unusual. One solution is to hack out the gain in front of the mixer, which isn't for everyone.

For example:

I modified my 3456 transverter board so that it now has 8 dB of gain, instead of 50 dB of gain at 1.3 GHz ahead of the mixer, since I always run a GaAs FET preamp in front of it. I suspect it will hear much better on Equinox this June, even with the multi-L, W1TKZ up there too.

This neglects the issue of what you really need. Sure, a noisy PLL rig is 40 dB worse than a good rig in terms of ultimate signal to noise ratio. But is this important if all you ever hear is the satellite (the transponders aren't noted for S/N radio--though most designers aren't faced with all the restrictions you have up in Space). Terrestrial interference can certainly be a problem--but a better receiver isn't the only solution. 432 EME has been made much easier by cleaning up antenna patterns. Perhaps the same might be true for satellite work.

BTW, Spurs on the LO can be a **real** problem. A 78L05 with an inductive input can oscillate, putting spurs around 1 MHz or so from the carrier. Imagine what these spurs do even the best mixer. It can make interference from FM stations unbearable, no matter how good your mixer.

I note that if you put a 96 MHz crystal in your no tune 2304 XVTR, and have a 142.5 MHz receiver, this will probably cover Arsene at 2446.5. Wideband equipment has its advantages for microwave work.

Zack Lau KH6CP/1

Internet: zlau@arrl.org	"Working" on 24 GHz SSB/CW gear
	Operating Interests: 10 GHz CW/SSB/FM
US Mail: c/o ARRL Lab	80/40/20 CW
225 Main Street	Station capability: QRP, 1.8 MHz to 10 GHz
Newington CT 06111	modes: CW/SSB/FM/packet
	amtor/baudot
Phone (if you really have to): 203-666-1541	

>only is the preamp going to be squirrely, but strong local signals are
>going to play hell with the already weak mixer. By installing the Mutek
>board, you can use a preamp with a bit less gain, and likely an accompanying
>better noise figure, at the antenna to overcome cable and mixer losses,
>and wind up with a better overall system.

Date: 31 May 93 17:31:28 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu

Subject: Kit Review
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Here is my review (totally non-technical) of the
Oak Hills Research Spirit:

Description:

Single Band kit for 80, 40, 30, 20, or 15
Curtis Chip keyer (8044ABM)
Superhet receiver with diode ring mixer and RF pre-amp
4 pole crystal ladder filter followed by an on board audio filter
Switchable HP AGC circuit with manual gain control
2 watts audio output
VFO with 8:1 vernier drive
Sinewave sidetone oscillator w/ frequency and level controls
QSK
5 Watts output
12vDC
4"X6 1/4"X6 7/8" weighs 47 oz.
100% complete kit with pre-wound coils, PC boards are quality
double-sided and plated through and screened.
=====

OK, that is what it says in the catalogue. I opened the box and checked things out. There is a stack of stapled sheets that are the instructions. There are large part overlays, a chart showing you how to read the resistor codes, a detailed and well thought out parts list. and the schematics.

This kit isn't the Heath step by step approach. The first page tells you some general things about assembling the kit and soldering and be careful type comments. The first step is to find all the parts and make sure they have been sent to you. Next you find the Receiver board and then it tells you to put in all the resistors followed by the capacitors. The next steps do go through what you need to do. As the process itself would get more unclear the directions get clearer.

After building a number of kits I find I like this approach best. I first check off all the parts and label them on a piece of paper and stick the wires through. This gives me a chance to make sure all the parts have been included, familiarizes me with the parts and gives me a double check about putting the correct parts in the right holes on the board. I check them once while I am going through the parts check off and then again before I place them on the board. I also find that checking off the parts is my least favorite part, and when I do it this way, when I start to build I don't have to go hunting for parts. Since

I have started to use this approach, my projects seem to work correctly the first time (except for putting in an audio chip backwards and smoking it.. well no one is perfect and I was able to get a replacement for \$2.00 at Radio Shack). I found the way the parts were listed on the instructions made it very easy to identify them and check them off. I found almost all steps in the final construction to be very clear and unambiguous. I do a lot of documentation at my job. I find that most instruction sets have places where the author meant one thing and the words indicate something else.

OK, now for the kit. I think there were over 170 resistors in this kit. It took me quite some time and energy to sort out the parts. I found ALL the parts to be of top quality. The enclosure is excellent. I didn't see any hint of cutting corners in any piece that was included with the kit. After building kits from about all kit manufacturers, the quality of the parts in this were the best. I have found that Ramsey uses some quality parts and some real garbage..I think Ramsey's enclosures are real ripoffs.

The board was the single item that impressed me the most. Like it says it is high quality plated through. You heat the joint and the board sucks up the solder. The result is that you will be proud to show either side of this board to anyone.. my wife comments on how her needlework is beautiful on the front side, but she won't show the back to anyone, well many of my projects are like that. With this one, I felt like displaying the board in an art show.. what a proud pop I am. The silk screening on the receiver board was ok, but certainly not great.. I found I put one piece in the wrong place because I couldn't read the part #. Well this really isn't a problem, and it was my fault. There is a clear large part overlay that makes it a breeze to build.

The receiver board is jam packed with parts.. but the back of the board is layed out so that if you use a fine tipped soldering iron you really shouldn't have any problems with solder bridges. The transmitter board was a lot less dense.

The Keyer board isn't plated through and not near in quality to the other 2 boards.. be careful with this one.. I found it not nearly as much fun to solder to as the other boards.

Once I got the parts checked off and labeled, I found it very easy to assemble. The first part of the instructions that tell you to put on about 200 parts are a mere 2-3 steps. Then when you put in the rest of the parts the instructions (like assembling the chassis, the final wiring and alignment) are detailed and clear. There are no checks as to whether you have built it right.. like Heath's resistance checks, when you are done, you power up and pray.

I was real careful with this kit, but got a little too excited at the final assembly and had put one teeny weeny audio chip in backwards.. boy did I feel dumb.. and when I powered up.. the smoke came out.. it failed the smoke test (or is it it passed the smoke test, but failed to work). It was very easy to spot the mistake, and since the chip was on a socket, it was a breeze to correct. I checked the resistors and other parts that fed it, and no problem at all.

The final alignment suggests a frequency counter. I can't ever get the frequency counter in my MFJ antenna analyzer to read such low levels, so I use my 757GX as my alignment tool. You just need to set a coil and a capacitor to set the full 100kc bandwidth for the VFO. I take a piece of copper wire, stick it in the antenna jack of my 757 and hold the loose end over the oscillator circuit. It works just fine. The rest of the alignment had some aspects I have never encountered before. You tune the pitch of your TX out signal and the sidetone pitch (I once again used the 757, put both rigs on dummy load, transmitted and set the Spirit for the same note as the 757. I figured the Yaesu people knew what they were doing and had the proper equipment when they did it). The TX alignment I used my Oak Hills QRP wattmeter and you simply adjust a variable resistor for power level and then 2 coils for maximum output. I spoke with Dick at Oak Hills who suggest you tune it for the full 5 watts out to get the best quality TX signal. Over the weekend I took the case off a few times and tweeked various things. A note about the keyer weighting adjustment. I started at the suggested middle position. The keyer was acting really funky... couldn't really set it right. I turned the weighting adjustment and it is now perfect..one of the better keyers I have used..guess that is why a lot of people use Curtis chips. One of the adjustments that you peak .. be careful that you are on the right sideband.. I didn't have much audio level to my speaker, when I went and re-read the instructions, it had cautioned me about it.. went back and re-adjusted and everything was fine.

Ok, now for the real stuff.... how did it work. Well let me tell you that the weekend of the CQ WPX CW contest is quite some time to test out a new QRP rig. The rig puts out a full 5 watts (I turned mine back from a little over 6 watts.. may have to have a friend put the oscilloscope on it to check the signal out). The keyer works real smooth.. full break in.. but has a minor little click in it.. don't think the click is going over the air.. I have listened on another receiver. The receiver at first deceived me and I will need to do some more testing. The bands were really crowded in my QTH. The big guns were using big ammo. The rig doesn't have a narrow and wide CW filter switch. This worried me. During contests it is real nice to have a narrow filter available. I tuned around and noticed that when the receiver got a signal, you really only heard that one signal. At first I thought that this was caused by the receiver being too insensitive. After spending the entire weekend of the contest testing the rig out, I found that if I could hear them on

the other rig, I could hear them on the Spirit without other station interference. I am not as of yet a person who possesses enough electronics knowledge to go in and analyze the circuit and do comparisons. I can do extensive "real-life" tests.. which from my experience sometimes had more truth than theory.

I worked over 125 stations with my 5 watts and Gap vertical during the contest. I worked to Russian stations, a S50S I think it was, an Italian, a French, Alaska, a bunch of islands, and from the West Coast to the East Coast and some other places in between. After I got the hang of it, I got many returns on my first call.. not bad for 5 watts and a vertical.. used the built in keyer, not my contest keyer and my Bencher paddles.

Other impressions: I would have left out the AGC on and off, the RF control and made the keyer an option. I use a straight key most of the time. The rig is BIG and HEAVY. A little smaller than my HW9, but not much smaller. The chassis is solid... lots of metal. I think Oak Hills can keep the best parts of this kit, get rid of the extras, and maybe add a narrow filter and a S meter. I think they are coming out with something like this in the near future. For a station QRP rig, it would be pretty hard to beat this though.. and for portable operation it would also be excellent, a little too big for backpacking.

Date: 1 Jun 93 00:28:41 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Marine Band Channel 16 Freq?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I think that channel 16 on marine VHF radios is the one for emergency use.
Does anyone in Greater Netland know the frequency?

= = = = = = = = = = = = = = =
- Miles Abernathy, N5KOB =
| |__ miles@emx.cc.utexas.edu =
_ | _ | POB 7580, Austin TX 78713 =
\ * / University of Texas @ Austin =
\ / tel. (512) 471-6521 =
= = = = = = = = = = = = = = =

Date: 31 May 93 17:45:56 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Nickel-hydride batteries (UPDATE)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I just got some new info from Harding Energy Systems, makers of the nickel-hydride cells; among other things, their address has changed. The new address is:

Harding Energy Systems
One Energy Center
Norton Shores, MI 49441-5629
phone (616) 798-7033
fax (616) 798-7044

Mail sent to the old address in Grand Haven, MI will be returned by the post office, as my first order was. My apologies to anyone who sent an order to the address I posted before. As Maxwell Smart used to say..."Sorry about that, Chief!" ;-)

Now, a little more info. Someone had asked about problems with overcharging NiMH cells. According to Harding's literature, the recommended charge rate is C/10, where C is the capacity of the cell in mAh. This rate is safe for continuous charging without damage. Higher rates can be used; Harding says any rate up to C/5 is OK without reservation, and they hint at use of rates up to C/1. The problem with overcharging at high currents, as I had surmised before, is that the high internal resistance of the NiMH cells causes the generation of excessive heat. This heat causes a rise in pressure in the cell, which opens the safety vent and discharges hydrogen gas. Hydrogen is the storage medium for the cell; as it is lost, the cell's capacity is reduced. But to recapitulate, at lower charge rates, this is not a problem and the cells can be charged continuously without worry.

The question was raised about auto-shutoff fast chargers. Harding recommends two possible charger types, the design of which is left as an exercise for the student. ;-) The first is a temperature-controlled device, switching off at either a constant temperature of 35-45 degrees C or a change in temperature of 10 degrees C. (This is a good place to note that the NiMH's we're using at work seem to get no hotter than nicads on a ~150 mA charge. We use a Rat Shack fast charger, which runs for 5 hours and shuts down; we just run the NiMH's through it twice.) The other approach is by voltage control; Harding gives no specifics on this in their literature, but they will apparently explain it to those truly interested.

Harding makes an additional cell size I had not seen before, which may be of some use: the A cell. This is 49.5 mm long by 16.5 mm dia.--compare AA cells at 50.5 mm long by 14 mm diameter. The A cell has a capacity of 1800 mAh, and a recommended C/10 charge rate of 180 mA. It may fit into loosely designed AA packs; measure yours carefully if you're interested. Harding also sells the AA and C cells I had mentioned earlier.

Hope this is helpful to those of you interested in the NiMH cells, and once again, sorry for the bad address last time.

Disclaimer, once again: I'm not an employee of Harding, just a customer.

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=====
Richard Hosker      : tttttttt
rph0470@tntech.edu : t u t u  Tennessee Technological University
PO Box 6083 TTU     : t u t u  Cookeville, TN
Cookeville, TN 38505 : t uuuuu
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"When the going gets weird, the weird turn pro."--Hunter S. Thompson

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#include <disclaimer.h>
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Date: 31 May 93 17:41:13 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: RACES Bulletin #276
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Bid : \$RACESBUL.276

TO: ALL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCIES VIA AMATEUR RADIO
INFO: ALL RACES OPERATORS IN CA (ALLCA: OFFICIAL)
 ALL AMATEURS U.S. (@ USA: INFORMATION)
FROM: CA STATE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (W6HIR @ WA6NWE.CA)
 2800 Meadowview Rd., Sacramento, CA 95832 (916)262-1600
 Landline BBS open to all: (916) 262-1657
RACESBUL.276 DATE: May 31, 1993
SUBJECT: MGT - Radio Officer or RACES Radio Officer, which?

One will see both titles in our discussions on communications volunteers in government service. While it may be of little significance in your government, here is how we define them to those who may just be starting up a communications program.

A RACES Radio Officer is basically as described in the FCC Rules and Regulations: that person who directs a local government's Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service program and is responsible to its civil defense director.

We utilize the title of Radio Officer, without the word RACES, to mean one who coordinates the RACES and more. Such a Radio Officer is concerned with all of the two-way radio systems in a local government, whereas the scope of a RACES Radio Officer is confined to the RACES. Thus the Radio Officer works not only with Amateur Radio but one or more of the following: Civil Air Patrol, Local Government, Fire, Police, Special Emergency, EMS, MARS, Citizens Band, other FCC radio services and those of the Federal government.

Some governments have only one or two RACES Radio Officers who, in turn, call upon ARES resources for support as needed. This is not necessarily a Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, however.

We urge that you encourage your RACES Radio Officer to become familiar with the capabilities and shortcomings of all your local government's telecommunications so that you may be better served by your volunteers. There is no time to train and explain when called out in an emergency.

* * *

"The deepest need is the need to be needed." --- R.L.S.

EOM

RACES Bulletins are archived on the Internet at ucsd.edu in hamradio/races and can be retrieved using FTP.

Date: Mon, 31 May 93 07:12:55 -0400
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!emory!dragon!nj8j!
ben@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Varney's antenna
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

derry@NeXTwork.Rose-Hulman.Edu (John Derry) writes:

> Jack's 3rd Rule of antennas:--
>
> -----
> ! !
> ! "NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF ANTENNA YOU PUT UP, !
> ! SOMEONE, SOMEWHERE, WILL BE ABLE TO HEAR YOU." !
> ! !
> -----

I dunno about that. At least one of the Strange Antennas I have Built(tm) never resulted in a contact. It was an indoor 15m Slinky vertical. I took a Slinky, cut it to roughly the number of turns needed to make a half-wave(or was it a quarter-wave?) of wire and stretched it between a hook in the ceiling and the end-post on my bed. Attached coax shield to the bottom, and the center lead thru a variable capacitor to an alligator clip for a tap on the antenna. We(me and my brother) managed to get it to match, but never made a contact on it. There's probably some correlative to Murphy's Law that dictates that the major lobe was probably near vertical, thereby making the antenna useful only for 15 meter moonbounce or space communications.

Ben NJ8J

```
+-----+-----+
| Ben Coleman NJ8J | "All that is not eternal is      | |
| Packet: NJ8J@W4Q0.#EAL.#ATL.GA.USA.NA |       eternally irrelevant."    |
| Internet: ben@nj8j.atl.ga.us |           |           |
|      or    ben@nj8j.blackwlf.mese.com |           C. S. Lewis |           |
+-----+-----+
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Date: Mon, 31 May 1993 23:55:17 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!wupost!gumby!destroyer!vela.acs.oakland.edu!w8hd!
kenh@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Warning! FT5200 DANGER!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

To anyone with a Yaesu FT5200 with the 'wireless' mike option:

DO NOT, *REPEAT*, DO NOT leave your radio on an unattended with this option installed.....any 49 MHz transmission in it's vicinity will be dutifully repeated through the radio and onto the air that is selected on the left frequency display.

I discovered it the hard way: Car in the driveway, radio on. Me inside, on my cordless AT&T phone. Entire conversation (at least MY SIDE OF IT) was retransmitted over the local regional repeater for all to hear. And, it was not a conversation I'm particularly pleased with public reception of.

Beware!

--
kenh@w8hd.org
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Dearborn, MI 48121 VOICE: (313) 562-6873

Date: Mon, 31 May 93 15:41:22 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!spool.mu.edu!news.cs.indiana.edu!
noose.ecn.purdue.edu!en.ecn.purdue.edu!ghg@network.UCSD.EDU
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <01GYN0I9PZC2JRP75K@tnitech.edu>, <1u11ip\$n0m@sun.Panix.Com>,
<tpang.738491357@sfu.ca>ecn
Subject : Re: Nickel-hydride batteries

In article <tpang.738491357@sfu.ca> tpang@fraser.sfu.ca (Tsui Ting Debbie Pang) writes:
>schuster@panix.com (Michael Schuster) writes:
>>In article <01GYN0I9PZC2JRP75K@tntech.edu> RPH0470@tntech.EDU (Richard Hosker) writes:
>>>The Fuji lithium AA's are, believe it or not, 1.5 V. It's some sort of a
>
>>Eveready's Lithium Energizer AA cells have been on the market for a few
>>--
>>Mike Schuster | schuster@panix.com | 70346.1745@CompuServe.COM
>>----- | schuster@shell.portal.com | GEnie: MSCHUSTER
>
>I have yet to see them around in popular places in Vancouver yet, are they
>available in other cities in US now? BTW, when I used to live in Southern
>California, Kodak used to market their Lithium in supermarkets, but before
>I bought any, they were on clearance, and then gone for ever. I still
>I saw some ads on magazines as well. Now where are they? (some device would
>be perfect for such a long shell life, and high cap. type!)
>

I hoarded a few of these when they cleared out.. some for \$1 each,
list was \$5-\$7 for the 9V. About 1/3 of them are dead right out of the
pack... mfgr defect?

--ghg

Date: 31 May 1993 16:18:22 -0400
From: digex.com!digex.net!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1u5ut5\$m4p@access.digex.net>, <1993May29.044220.18566@kd4nc.uucp>,
<1993May30.132502.11356@ke4zv.uucp>
Subject : Re: Radio shack 2mtr ht, DTMF tone prob

gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman) writes:

>Many repeaters use a courtsey beep for this purpose, but if you're operating
>simplex, letting the transmitter beep before dropping carrier is a good
>way to simulate a verbal "over".

Yeah.

Why rely on good operating technique when the radio can save
you the trouble!

--

bote@access.digex.net (John Boteler)
WARNING: You are subject to pre-emption!

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #663
